

**Comments Regarding Notice of Filing and Hearing, Docket No. 2012-94-S**  
And mailed on July 30, 2012 to Public Service Commission of South Carolina, Attn: Clerk's Office, Post Office Drawer 11649, Columbia, SC 29211. Submitted by Gary Patterson, 1107 William and Mary Court, Columbia, SC 29210.

I have lived at the address above since 2002 and if the requested rate is granted, it will be unreasonable and not justified from a rate increase perspective.

I would love such a large increase in my SC retirement but received one percent. Surely the **103 percent increase** for this company is considered unreasonable and should be declined. Please be responsible with your authority—how are we to survive when everyone wants to go up on what they charge. At least the rate should be reasonable.

**Facts:**

(a) The amount of the rate increase is beyond what should be allowed since a previous rate increase was granted to Alpine Utilities from \$9.00 to \$16.75 since 2002 representing an 86.11 percent increase to fix and maintain the current system.

(b) During that same ten year period, our rate would have increased 279.33 percent if the Commission approves their request which is an unreasonable rate request.

(c) The amount of increase from the 16.75 to 34.14 would represent an increase of 103 percent which is beyond exorbitant. The company should have made as part of their planning process of acquiring Alpine Utilities a business plan that included gradual increases in rates over time to recover costs plus a reasonable profit so that homeowners such as myself are not hit with such a large rate increase in such a short period of time.

*Gary Patterson*  
7/30/2012

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
COLUMBIA, SC  
JUL 31 2012